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(74) Agent: G.E. EHRLICH (1995) LTD.; 11 Menachem Begin Street, 52 521 Ramat Gan (IL).

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(71) Applicants (for all designated States except US): RAMOT AT TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY LTD. [IL/IL]; P.O. Box 39296, 61 392 Tel Aviv (IL). CORNELL RESEARCH FOUNDATION, INC. [US/US]; Cornell Business & Technology Park, 20 Thornwood Drive, Suite 105, Ithaca, New York 14850 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): EDELMAN, Shlomo [IL/US]; 106 Brandywine Drive, Ithaca, New York 14850-1708 (US). HORN, David [IL/IL]; 28 Gutman Nachum Street, 69343 Tel Aviv (IL). RUPPIN, Eytan [IL/IL]; 44 Lilach Street, 71 908 Reut (IL). SOLAN, Tsach [IL/IL]; 10 Lea Street, 69 412 Tel Aviv (IL).

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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR LEARNING, RECOGNIZING AND GENERALIZING SEQUENCES

(57) Abstract: A method of generalizing a dataset having a plurality of sequences defined over a lexicon of tokens is provided. The method comprises: searching over the dataset for similarity sets, where each similarity set comprises a plurality of segments of size L having L-S common tokens and S uncommon tokens; and defining a plurality of equivalence classes corresponding to uncommon tokens of at least one similarity set. The method may further comprise a step in which a plurality of significant patterns are extracted, where each significant pattern corresponds to a most significant partial overlap between one sequence of the dataset and other sequences of the dataset. In one embodiment, a generalized dataset represented by a graph or a forest is constructed, and can be realized as a context-free grammar. The graph or forest can be used for generating sequences and/or testing grammatical structures.